

Asheville Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2009

Welcome and Introductions: Members introduced themselves.

Review and approval of Minutes: A copy of the minutes was sent out through email to the participants. Minutes were passed.

Agency Updates

1. Heather Spencer started at AHOPE as the new director. Her goal is to interact with the community and develop partnerships
2. Carton Battle with Beulah Foundation help first offenders, alcohol and drug addictions, homeless, families and disenfranchised with housing, education and spirituality. They have a new location downtown and are seeking partnerships.
3. Allison Haberfield reported that the next VA Stand Down is scheduled for September 11 at the Stephens Lee Rec. Center. Project Connect will be held the same day at First Baptist Church. The HUD VASH program has been approved for another full time position with 35 vouchers. Anticipated hiring will be in September.
4. Amy Sawyer indicated that the City Manager's office is seeking 150 volunteers to conduct a downtown survey on individuals housing status July 16@6pm-7pm. Interested individual may call her at 259-5831 or apply on line at www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=z0nkTboAuDPPKIWZxv3lhA

ABCCM Steadfast House (Meredith Hammond) Director

Meredith provided overview of programs services that include the following:

- Shelter care offering 35 beds for 6-12 months length of stay (7 mother and children rooms)
- Budgeting and savings planning
- Employment skill development
- Life skills
- Vocational education planning
- Disability application assistance as needed
- Housing placement
- Volunteer opportunities

Continuum of Care (COC) Application Information

Robin Merrell of Pisgah Legal Aid provided hand out and discussed the COC grant. Currently, AHOPE, Interlace, Shelter Plus Care and Bridge to Recovery programs have received 2008 funding totaling \$878,592.00. It is anticipated that the coalition will rank in October programs applying for 2009 funding using the HUD formula. Robin review what HUD requires in the application.

HPRP//HMIS

Amy Sawyer discussed HPRP funding and the HMIS system. HMIS tracks clients being served and improves system communication. Occupancy rate accuracy is consider important by HUD to track inventory and bed utilization. HMIS training is being offered July 14. If interested contact Holly Barham at 989-8810 or Help Desk at (877) 703-3176.

HPRP grant is 509k. Pre application copy has been e-mailed to coalition The is a meeting at the Public Works building July 8 to discuss pre-application and prepare for completing application coming July 24.

New Business

1. Frank Walters of Homeward Bound offered information from the Homeless Conference he attending in Washington DC.
2. Scott Rogers of ABCCM indicated that day services are offered at the 24 Cumberland Office that includes lunch and resource information to homeless individuals and families.

Next Meeting:

August 4 at the Asheville Housing Authority conference room 165 South French Broad. Directions will be provided via email.

